

(1997) state that this species occurs in a wide variety of water-edge habitats, especially mudflats along coastal areas, inlets, tidal estuaries, marshes, and bays.

Only two individuals were observed on two visits to the Kerr Reservoir site, and it is not known if the species breeds there or if the two captures represent vagrants. The habitat in which the specimens were collected is relatively common in the watershed associated with Kerr Reservoir, and additional surveys are planned to determine if a breeding population exists in the area. The two individuals captured in 1997 might be part of a larger population at some yet unknown location in the vicinity. Surveys in 1998 will focus on adult *C. trifasciata ascendens*, and if this tiger beetle is found, searches for larval burrows and larvae will be conducted.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to personnel at John H. Kerr Reservoir and Dam for their assistance. Special thanks to Dr. Steven M. Roble and Anne C. Chazal for reviewing previous versions of this manuscript, and Dr. C. Barry Knisley for his advice and information provided. Funding was provided by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Literature Cited

Knisley, C. B., & T. D. Schultz. 1997. The Biology of Tiger Beetles and a Guide to the Species of the South Atlantic States. Special Publication Number 5, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville. 210 pp.

Pearson, D. L., T. G. Barraclough, & A. P. Vogler. 1997. Distributional Maps for North American Species of Tiger Beetles (Coleoptera: Cicindelidae). *Cicindela* 29: 33-84

Roble, S. M. 1996. Natural Heritage Resources of Virginia: Rare Animal Species. Natural Heritage Technical Report 96-11. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage, Richmond. 23 pp. + appendices.

Christopher S. Hobson
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
217 Governor Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Banisteria, Number 11, 1998

© 1998 by the Virginia Natural History Society

RECENT NOTEWORTHY RECORDS OF THE SWAMPFISH (*CHOLOGASTER CORNUTA*) FROM THE NOTTOWAY RIVER SYSTEM, VIRGINIA – The monumental treatise by Jenkins & Burkhead (1994) on the freshwater fish fauna of Virginia contains an enormous number of distributional records. These authors reported that most records of the swampfish (*Chologaster cornuta*), one of the most unique species found in the state, are from the Blackwater River or the Dismal Swamp area, with isolated records from the Chickahominy River and Seashore State Park (see also Mitchell et al., 1997).

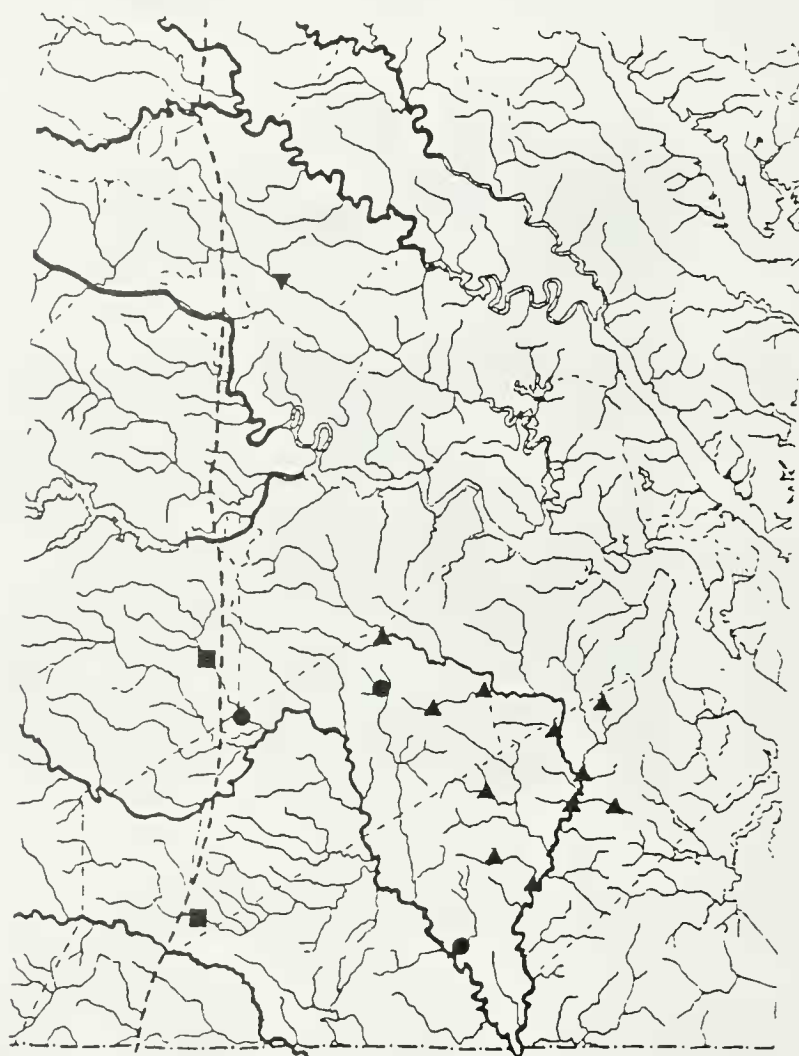


Fig. 1. Distribution of *Chologaster cornuta* in the Nottoway (circles), Blackwater (triangles) and Chickahominy (inverted triangle) rivers in Virginia (redrawn after Jenkins & Burkhead, 1994); records for the Dismal Swamp region and Seashore State Park are not plotted. New localities reported in this paper are shown as squares. Heavy dashed line indicates the Fall Line; following new county lighter dashed lines are county boundaries

Their range map shows only three records from the Nottoway River system, including one in the upper reaches of Assamoosick Swamp (a tributary), quite distant from the mainstem. Based on the scarcity of records, Jenkins & Burkhead (1994) concluded that *C. cornuta* is rare in the Nottoway, a drainage that has been relatively thoroughly sampled for fish. Therefore, we believe the records for the swampfish obtained incidental to very limited sampling for aquatic salamanders in the Nottoway River drainage are noteworthy. All specimens were captured using dip nets and will be deposited in the state fish collection at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Greensville-Sussex County line: Three Creek at County Route 611, ca. 7 km ENE Emporia. 2 September 1992. S. M. Roble. 1 specimen. **Dinwiddie County**: Rowanty Creek at County Route 703, ca. 5 km NW Carson. 12 April 1996. D. J. Stevenson and C. S. Hobson. 2 specimens.

Both of our sites are blackwater streams on the Fall Line, and extend the known range of *C. cornuta* in Virginia slightly inland (Fig. 1). The inlandmost record for this species plotted by Jenkins & Burkhead (1994) is in Sussex County, and is based on a specimen (Cornell University 16884) collected at the Route 301 site on Rowanty Creek that was discussed by Stinson (1997). The latter author determined that the original collection locality was recorded erroneously and that this site is actually 4.8 km S Carson (rather than Reams Station, Dinwiddie Co.). Our collection site on Rowanty Creek is approximately 8 km farther upstream. The Three Creek site is the first record of *C. cornuta* from a tributary south of the Nottoway River and becomes the southwesternmost known locality in Virginia. This site is geographically much closer to the Meherrin River than it is to the Nottoway River mainstem. However, there are no records for *C. cornuta* from the Meherrin River (or Fontaine Creek) in Virginia (Jenkins & Burkhead, 1994), although this species inhabits this portion of the Chowan River drainage in North Carolina (Cooper & Rohde, 1978; Menhinick, 1991).

Acknowledgments

The Union Camp Corporation kindly allowed access to the Three Creek site.

Literature Cited

- Cooper, J. E., & F. C. Rohde. 1978. *Chologaster cornuta* Agassiz. P. 481 *In* D. S. Lee, C. R. Gilbert, C. H. Hocutt, R. E. Jenkins, D. E. McAllister, & J. R. Stauffer, Jr. Atlas of North American Freshwater Fishes. North Carolina State Museum of Natural History, Raleigh.
- Jenkins, R. E., & N. M. Burkhead. 1994. Freshwater Fishes of Virginia. American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, Maryland. 1079 pp.
- Menhinick, E. F. 1991. The Freshwater Fishes of North Carolina. North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Raleigh. 227 pp.
- Mitchell, J. C., K. A. Buhlmann, & M. D. Norman. 1997. Freshwater fishes of an isolated, interdunal freshwater ecosystem in northern Virginia Beach, Virginia. *Banisteria* 9: 57-60.
- Stinson, C. M. 1997. On the type locality of *Orconectes virginianensis* Hobbs (Decapoda: Cambaridae). *Banisteria* 10: 28-29.
- Steven M. Roble, Dirk J. Stevenson¹,
and Christopher S. Hobson
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
217 Governor Street
Richmond, VA 23219
- ¹Present address: DPW, ENRD, Fish and Wildlife Branch,
AFZP-DEV-W, Fort Stewart, GA 31314